

Iowa Smart Planning Task Force Comprehensive Planning Committee

Workgroup: Local Comprehensive Planning

Date: July 13, 2010

Chair: Les Beck

Scope of group's work:

- 1) Develop statewide goals for comprehensive planning that utilize the Iowa Smart Planning Principles and develop recommendations for a process to measure progress toward achieving those goals.
- 2) Review city and county comprehensive plans to determine the number of such plans that address the hazards as listed in the Hazards Element of the suggested local comprehensive plan guidelines and the adequacy of such plans in addressing those hazards.
- 3) Evaluate and develop incentives to conduct local and regional comprehensive planning, including but not limited to state financial and technical assistance.
- 4) Recommend the means by which technical and financial assistance for comprehensive planning can be provided and administered.

Participants:

Name	Organization	Email
Les Beck	Iowa State Association of Counties	les.beck@linncounty.org
Jenna Anderson	Rebuild Iowa Office	jenna.anderson@rio.iowa.gov
Pamela Myhre	City of Mason City	pmyhre@masoncity.net
Paula Mohr	Dept. of Cultural Affairs	paula.mohr@iowa.gov
Jessica Harder	Iowa League of Cities	jessicaharder@iowaleague.org
David Wilwerding	American Planning Association	dwilwerding@ci.johnston.ia.us
Chad Keune	ACB/Ruhl & Ruhl	chad@acbiowa.com
Stuart Crine	Dept. of Public Safety	crine@dps.state.ia.us
Brian Schoon	INRCOG	bschoon@inrcog.org
Gary Reiners	PMRG	gbr@pmrg.net
Aaron Todd	Rebuild Iowa Office	aaron.todd@rio.iowa.gov

Presenters/Experts: N/A

Name	Organization	Email	Category

Workgroup Assignments for Next Meeting (July 29th):

- Review State Goal examples
- Email topics for discussion or presenter ideas regarding state planning goals to jenna.anderson@rio.iowa.gov

- Email other examples of measurable planning goals to jenna.anderson@rio.iowa.gov
- Recruit new workgroup members

Notes:

I. What is meant by a “planning goal”?

- Goals for each of the 10 smart planning principles vs. Broad goals
- Examples of states with existing planning goals (See Gary Taylor’s resource page:
<http://blogs.extension.iastate.edu/planningBLUZ/iowa-smart-planning-resource-page/>)
 - Maryland:
<http://www.mdp.state.md.us/OurWork/1992PlanAct.shtml>
 - Maine: <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/30-A/title30-Asec4326.html>
 - Vermont:
http://www.smartgrowthvermont.org/fileadmin/files/Toolbox_Images/Publications/State_Planning_Goals_final.pdf
 - Connecticut:
<http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?A=2990&Q=385370>
- **Suggested goal layouts:**
 - A. Goals based on Planning Process (*Pam Myhre*)
 - 1) Advocating for smart comp planning
 - 2) Educate about importance of plan and the planning process
 - 3) Create a process that allows for both ease and individuality
 - 4) Provide tools for localities to create plan and implement
 - 5) Ensure implementation of the adopted plan
 - 6) Monitor the implementation of the plan
 - B. Goals based on growth management/land use (*Les Beck*)
 - 1) Location
 - 2) Type
 - 3) Amount
 - 4) Rate
 - 5) Quality
 - C. Broad goals (*Jessica Harder*)

- 1) Incentivize planning for all communities with a goal of having (measurable amount) of cities/counties/regions having a plan by (a certain date)
 - 2) Integrate watershed planning
 - 3) Create strong education and training initiatives in importance of a comp plan, elements to an effective comp plan, and smart planning principles
 - 4) Make planning simple
 - 5) Keep costs down
 - 6) Provide a “toolbox” for planning
- Important points to remember when creating goals:
 - Goals need to be measurable
 - Goals should integrate smart planning principles
 - Most communities do not have the resources
 - A model/guidance needs to be created on minimums and exceeding minimums, while still allowing for creativity and individuality
 - Small communities need technical assistance for graphics and report creation but need to be in charge of the visioning and goal setting process
 - Instead of reinventing the wheel, partner to share Iowa best practices through education
 - Focus on incentivizing multi-jurisdictional plans and/or consistency of planning within jurisdictions
 - Focus on continuous education and advocacy

II. Next Steps

- Evaluate other state’s goals
- Develop measurable goals
- Bring in experts and presenters

III. Suggested Topics/Presenters for Next Meeting

- Jerry Anthony, University of Iowa
- Center on Sustainable Communities
- Possible out of state sources- Minnesota, Wisconsin?